

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

Hearing Date: March 18, 2021 8:00 AM

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COMMENTS FOR: HB 1890

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Kellye Duncan

self

San Angelo, TX

Dear Committee members,

Election integrity is vital to every community & county across our great state regardless of party preference. We must maintain our voter ID laws and have other means to maintain the truth in all elections. If we must show an ID to purchase beer, wine, alcohol, tobacco, BOARD AN AIRPLANE, cash a check or any other multiple times, we must prove who we are when voting. I would hate to learn that my mother had voted - she has been dead since 1997. I would hate to learn that my neighbor had voted even though he is not a registered voter. Please review with your heart the logical and legal methods to ensure our elections are true and fair. Thank you for your service to our great state of Texas!

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Robert Scott

Self - Retired

Colleyville, TX

I object to this bill as a limitation to voting rights and application of more open elections. This practice is in place in a number of states and there have been no documented cases of unwelcome outcomes (including fraud). I encourage extension and openness in voting registration and voting practices. When more Texans vote, democracy wins.

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Larry Ringler

Self-retired

Portland, TX

I fully support this bill, which makes the runoff federal primary date for federal office the same throughout the state to avoid unnecessary confusion. Please vote for this bill.

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DONNA EYLES

Self

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

For many reasons, I believe that all runoff federal primary elections should be held on the same date.

Please vote YES for HB 1890.

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Eric Mann

Self

Dallas, TX

Oppose

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Dianna Berg

Personal

LaGrange, TX

Oppose

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scott mesmer

self

corpus christi, TX

Consistently is the key to excellence. The election dates should be consistent throughout the state of Texas  
Please vote for HB 1890

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Julie Garcia

self

Corpus Christi, TX

Anything we can do to make conformaity for our election will help from any confusion. Keep it simple.  
Please vote for HB 1890.

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Jim Riley

Self

Houston, TX

Splitting the runoff would result in four different deadlines for independent candidates. It would simplify matter to move the filing deadline for independent candidates to match that for write-in candidates (TEC 142.006 and 192,032(c) to match 146.025(1).

If Texas would adopt the system used in Louisiana for overseas voters there is no need for the long period between primary and runoff (In Louisiana overseas voters may provide a ranking of potential runoff candidates. This ranking would be used if no ballot is received for the runoff).

Better yet would be to eliminate partisan primaries entirely. They exclude voters and the parties are not competent to run them. Hold the general election in September with a runoff if necessary in November. (For Congress, there would have to be a runoff even if one candidate has a majority). The statutes for special elections can be utilized.

Even better would be to split county and precinct offices from state and district offices and move them to the Spring and require that all other local elections (cities, school districts, etc.) be moved to the same election run as a joint election by the county.

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Linda Maldonado

Retired/Self

San Antonio, TX

I oppose this bill. There is absolutely no reason to add another election, except to purposely inconvenience and disenfranchise voters. It will also cost counties and the state tremendous expense. Of course, I believe that is the purpose of this bill. Keep the law the way it is.

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Ellen Duncan

self

New Braunfels, TX

I SUPPORT HB 1382. My son was unable to vote in this year's presidential election because he never received his ballot though he applied for it in the summer. He has voted absentee in every election, taking his duty to vote very seriously. The first 4 years he received his ballots with no problem while a student in Virginia. As a law student at the University of Texas the first year he voted with ease until the presidential election. The Comal County elections office first gave him the wrong information (volunteers often get it wrong according to Cynthia Jaqua CCEO head) and told him his ballot had been mailed. It had not. Then some days I checked with the office on his behalf since I was doing my duty serving on the ballot board, the Elections Office head checked and it in fact had NEVER BEEN MAILED and claimed they never received his ballot request despite the fact that he had voted absentee for 5 1/2 years with ease. They ultimately mailed a new ballot though it was just at the deadline for absentee ballot requests and that ballot finally did come but two weeks AFTER the election due to POSTAL DELAYS. It's common sense to have electronic tracking. Why do we want to rely on volunteers in busy elections offices to provide such important information when this can be done with ease? Let's join modern times and make it EASIER for Texans to vote not more difficult!

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Pamela Oglesby

None

Cedar Park, TX

A true democracy should make every effort to minimize the obstacles to voting and maximize the turnout of eligible voters. I worked the election polls last fall and saw no evidence of voter fraud. If people didn't have the proper ID or failed to bring their mail in ballot to vote in person, they would return home and bring back the correct documents. It has become obvious that the efforts to further suppress the vote by creating more hurdles is anti-democracy and a power grab.

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Bianca Gracia, Mrs

Latinos for America First, Latinos for Trump, Lideres de la Comunidad, and Americanos Conservative United

Pasadena, TX

Our organization of over 10k members and 2k Hispanic Evangelicals support this bill.

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Skyler Korgel

Self, Manufacturing Engineer

Weatherford, TX

I am against HB 1890 on the basis of the nonsensical nature to hold a separate primary runoff election for federal offices and all other partisan offices that would occur within a month and a half of each other. This change would significantly confuse Texas voters as to which candidates are on the ballot in which election since candidates for these different offices will be campaigning concurrently and advertising different election dates. Voter turnout for these separate primary runoff elections would be

significantly and negatively impacted by asking voters to return to the polls a minimum of 3 times in the first half of each even-numbered year (primary, county & state primary runoff, federal runoff). The cost to Texas taxpayers of holding another election would be significant, which is unwise in a biennium with a budget shortfall and lack of natural revenue to offset the extra costs of staffing and running this extra primary runoff.

I urge the committee to not report HB 1890 out of committee or vote nay on the House floor if it is reported out.

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